

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Chris Larson, 14th District

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FIGHT FOR FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY WILL CONTINUE

County Board sustains Scott Walker's veto of study to determine costs for domestic partner benefits

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Chris Larson released the following statement after the County Board sustained the County Executive's veto of a resolution to study the granting of benefits to domestic partners of Milwaukee County employees:

"It's clear that, with this morning's vote to sustain the veto, misinformation and fear won the day. The County Executive and others relied on inflated cost estimates to misinform the public and generate a false reaction from residents. It's unfortunate that these individuals are against a simple study to determine the actual costs. This study would not have led to any changes without another vote from the County Board.

"Nevertheless, introducing this resolution was an important first step in getting on the right side of history, and I applaud my colleagues that voted in favor of calling for this study. As the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* Editorial Board wrote this morning, 'it is a matter of fairness for heterosexual couples, too.' I will continue to fight for equality in Milwaukee County government. It's the right thing to do, and I will not waver from my position.

"Although we may not have been victorious today, we will continue to push for fairness. The City of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin, and a majority of Fortune 500 companies already offer this benefit. There is little doubt that the arc of history will continue to bend toward equality. Now that we have begun to have this conversation in Milwaukee County, we are one step closer to providing more fair and equitable employee benefits."

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